

Effect of Source and Method of Zinc Application on Growth and Yield of Maize (*Zea Mays* L.)

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ABSTRACT

A field experiment was conducted at Agricultural College Farm, Bapatla, on sandy loam soils during *kharif*, 2017 to know the response of source and method of zinc application on growth and yield of maize. The results of the experiment revealed that plant height, dry matter accumulation and yield (stover and kernel) were significantly influenced by the imposed treatments. The treatment receiving RDF+ seed priming with 2% ZnSO₄ and foliar application of 0.2% ZnSO₄ (T₇) recorded significant increase in stover and kernel yield (7379 and 6342 kg ha⁻¹, respectively) which was 43.9% and 53.8% increase over recommended dose of fertilizers (T₁). Significant increase in drymatter accumulation (13957 kg ha⁻¹) at harvest was recorded with T₇ (RDF+ seed priming with 2% ZnSO₄ and foliar application of 0.2% ZnSO₄). The highest plant height (239.9 cm) at harvest was recorded with T₇ which was on par with T₄ (RDF+ foliar application of 0.2% ZnSO₄) and significantly superior over T₁ (RDF).

Key words: *Drymatter accumulation and yield, Maize, Plant height,*